Mr. K. Ramunni Menon.—It will be considered after the three months are over.

Finger-print system—Registration Department.

500. Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to state :—

(a) when the finger print system was introduced in the Cochin Registration Department;

(b) whether the Superintendent of Registration issued circulars to the District Registrars inquiring of the doubts they had in the practical working of the system ;

(c) whether the Superintendent of Registration was sent by Government to Calicut to study the working of the system; if so, when;

(d) what is the expenditure incurred by the Government in connection with (c);

(e) has the benefit of the studies of the Superintendent in this direction been imparted in any way to the various District Registrars ; if not, why ; if communicated when and how?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—(a) On 1—4—1107.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes. The Superintendent proceeded to Calicut on 27—4—1107.

(d) Superintendent Rs. 40—1—0. Peon who accompanied the Superintendent Rs. 4—2—0.

(e) Yes. Detailed instructions were given to all Registrars in a circular dated 13—6—1107 and personal instructions also to some of them.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—(e) Did the Superintendent of Registration go on circuit to any District Registry Office for the purpose of giving personal instruction?

Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar.—I want notice.

Closing of shops, hotels, &c.

501. Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether they issued orders to close all shops including public hotels in the State for 3 days following the sad demise of His Highness the Ex-Maharaja ;

(b) if so, under what regulation or rules they have done so;

(c) whether such orders used to be issued in connection with the demises of important members of the Royal Family;

(d) whether they are not aware that the Police enforced the closing of the shops on all such occasions ;

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